## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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62.

**ACTION EUR-12** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-01 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01

H-02 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01 OES-03

SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /089 W

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O 232238Z APR 75 FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6228

CONFIDENTIAL OTTAWA 1483

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, CA, US

SUBJECT: IMPENDING CANADIAN DECISION TO RAISE PRICE OF GAS EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES

REF: STATE 092966

- 1. I CALLED ON EXTAFF UNDER SECRETARY BASIL ROBINSON THIS AFTERNOON AND MADE ALL POINTS IN REFTEL SUPPORTING U.S. REQUEST THAT UNILATERAL DECISION ON INCREASE IN NATURAL GAS EXPORT PRICE BE DELAYED AND THAT MINISTERIAL LEVEL CONSULTATIONS BE HELD TO EXAMINE PRICE AND SUPPLY ISSUES. I URGED ROBINSON TO MAKE SURE THAT OUR VIEWS WOULD BE IN FRONT OF CABINET TOMORROW OR WHENEVER IT TAKES UP NATURAL GAS PRICE QUESTION. ROBINSON ASSURED ME THAT HE WOULD DO SO.
- 2. ROBINSON ASKED WHETHER USG INTENDED TO PUBLICIZE ITS REQUEST FOR CONSULTATIONS. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE WISER IF WE DID NOT. I SAID I HAD NO INDICATION THAT USG INTENDED TO GO PUBLIC BUT WOULD REPORT CONFIDENTIAL

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HIS VIEW TO WASHINGTON. (COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT

PREMATURE PUBLICITY COULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. IT STIMULATES MEDIA QUESTIONS TO WHICH EMR MINISTER MACDONALD, IN PARTICULAR, TENDS TO RESPOND IN WAY WHICH BOXES GOC IN PUBLICLY BEFORE THERE HAS BEEN OPPORTUNITY FOR FULL CONSIDERATION OF ALL ASPECTS OF MATTER AT HAND.)

3. I SUBSEQUENTLY MADE SUMMARY OF OUR POSITION AVAILABLE TO JACK AUSTIN, PRINCIPAL SECRETARY IN PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE, AND REITERATED REQUEST THAT OUR POSITION BE COMMUNICATED TO CABINET. PORTER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: NATURAL GAS, IMPORTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, MEETINGS, PRICES

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TAGS: ENRG, CA, US To: STATE

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